

In the Claims

Claims 1 - 19 (Cancelled)

20. (New) A process for distributing video sequences in accordance with a nominal stream format including a succession of images/pictures, which nominal stream, on which an analysis is made prior to transmission to client equipment for generating a modified main stream, has a format of the nominal stream and has images/pictures modified by substitution of selected data by similar data, but random or calculated, and has complementary information of any format including substituted data and digital information suitable for permitting reconstruction of a modified nominal stream, and then for separately transmitting the modified main stream in real time or deferred time and the complementary information in real time at substantially the moment of display from a server to the client equipment, and for which a synthesis of an available stream in a nominal format is calculated on the client equipment, reconstituted as a function of the modified main stream and of the complementary information and a reading of the stream on the client equipment, wherein during reading of the stream a stage includes generating a position identifier as a function of characteristics of the stream, which position identifier is transmitted to the server that activates in response sending the complementary information as a function of the position identifier.

21. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein each picture of the nominal stream is associated with a position identifier.

22. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the reading stage comprises calculating the position identifier of the picture read.

23. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the reading stage comprises calculating the position identifier of the stream read.

24. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the complementary information is transmitted in portions.

25. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the available stream on the recipient equipment of which the reading conditions the position and the portion to be sent of the complementary information is a part of the modified main stream.

26. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the available stream on the recipient equipment of which the reading conditions the position and the portion to be sent of the complementary information is a part of the reconstituted nominal stream.

27. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the format of the nominal stream is defined by the MPEG-2 standard.

28. (New) The process according to claim 27, wherein the position identifier for an image/picture includes a time code variable associated with a group of images/pictures in which the image/picture under consideration is located and the temporal reference variable of the image/picture.

29. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the format of the nominal stream is in the MPEG-2 TS format and the position identifier includes four variables identifying the program, program clock reference, continuity counter and occurrence index of the continuity counter, which occurrence index of the continuity counter results from a calculation applied to the TS packets.

30. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein each portion of the complementary information sent by the server permits reconstitution of at least one image/picture of the original stream during the synthesis.

31. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the server adapts the size and content of each portion of the complementary information to be sent as a function of the position identifier.

32. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein each portion of the complementary information is sent in advance relative to an instant of display of this picture of the steam reconstituted with the portion.

33. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the sender adapts sending complementary information when the user of the recipient equipment pauses, thereby stopping the transmission of complementary information.

34. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the server adapts sending complementary information when the user of the recipient equipment makes a rapid advance or a rapid return by sending a portion corresponding to a proper position for the commands “rapid advance” and “rapid return.”

35. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein the server adapts transmission of complementary information when a network breakdown occurs that prevents client-server communication by stopping transmission of complementary information during the breakdown and restarting it when the breakdown stops and it again receives messages coming from the client.

36. (New) The process according to claim 20, wherein prior to transmitting the complementary information, the server creates a table associating the pointers to the portion of the complementary information with temporal positions relative to images/pictures of the video stream, stores the table on a support connected to the server and consults the table to determine a portion of complementary information to be transmitted after having received the position identifier.

37. (New) Equipment for producing a video stream comprising at least one multimedia server containing original video sequences, a device for analyzing the video stream coming from the server for generating a modified main stream and complementary information, a device for synchronizing transmission of the complementary information as a function of a position identifier transmitted by recipient equipment.

38. (New) A system for transmitting a video stream according to the process of claim 20, comprising equipment for producing a video stream, at least one piece of equipment for using a video stream and at least one communication network between the production equipment and the piece or pieces of equipment.